

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs beginning on page 1, lines 14-27 as follows:

Recently, along with a wide use of computers, digital cameras and the like, printers also have become widely used ~~as one of the peripherals to print out~~. An output of images with a high quality comparable to a color print obtained by a conventional ~~steel~~ camera has been achieved as the printers offer high performance. Along with the versatile use of the printers, a method for managing the consumables on the user basis has also been suggested (see reference to Japanese Laid-Open Publication No. 2002-331728).

The reality, however, is that the price of printers is reduced due to a fierce competition in the market or the like, and the ~~makers of printers~~ printer manufacturers expect that the profit can be mainly gained by establishing a business model related to the consumables (e.g., inks, ribbons, and print sheets). That is to say, the makers have not discovered a profit structure other than such consumables.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 32 as follows:

Under such circumstances, the purchase of ~~the printer~~ consumables does not increase as much as the makers expect. Consequently, ~~it is a vicious circle that~~ the price of the consumables does not get cheaper.

Please amend paragraphs beginning on page 2, lines 4-24 as follows:

The problem does not concern only the price of the printer consumables, but also the situation in which the user finds that new consumables are required. For example, the user does not know that a consumable ~~runs~~ has run out until he/she switches on the printer or finds oneself in trouble, e.g., a print error such as a paper jam frequently occurs.

The present invention is conceived in view of the above circumstances, and an ~~aim~~object of the present invention is to provide ~~the~~a communication apparatus, ~~the~~a printing apparatus, ~~the~~a consumable's order receiving apparatus, and the like, which can improve the user's convenience relating to the printer consumables.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 12 as follows:

Thus, the user can accumulate the point value each time the printing is repeated and can purchase a consumable at a low ~~price~~price using the accumulated point value. Therefore, the user's financial cost involved in ~~the~~ printing can be reduced and the user is encouraged to use the printing apparatus (i.e., print). A positive growth circle, in which a demand for printer consumables increases, a price of the consumable is reduced, and the demand ~~furtherly~~further increases, is therefore expected. This activates the market of printer consumables.

Please amend paragraphs beginning on page 4, lines 4-32 as follows:

The ordering unit may perform the transmission after detecting an occurrence of a state in which a consumable ~~runs~~is running out, the state indicating that a remaining amount of the consumable goes below a predetermined amount. As the method for detecting that the consumable ~~runs~~is running out, the ordering unit may detect the occurrence of the state in which a consumable ~~runs~~is running out, by receiving a notification from the printing apparatus indicating the occurrence of the state in which a consumable ~~runs~~is running out. The ordering unit may also detect the occurrence of the state in which a consumable ~~runs~~is running out, in the case where the remaining amount goes below the threshold, by receiving a notification from the printing apparatus indicating the remaining amount of the consumable and comparing the remaining amount with the predetermined threshold. Then, the ordering unit may perform the

transmission without obtaining an ordering instruction from an operator, after detecting the occurrence of the state in which a consumable ~~runs~~is running out.

Thus, the processing of ordering consumables operate simultaneously with the state of the consumable in the printing apparatus so that ~~the occurrence of the problem that the user does~~failing to not notice that the consumable ~~runs~~is running out until he/she tries to use the printing apparatus is prevented.

The ordering unit may also include a display unit for displaying on a screen the occurrence of the state in which a consumable ~~runs~~is running out, after detecting said occurrence. The ordering unit may then perform the transmission after obtaining an ordering instruction from an operator. Thus, the user can order a consumable after having acknowledged the occurrence of the state in which a consumable runs out.

Please amend the sub-heading on page 6, line 4 as follows:

~~Best Mode for Carrying Out~~Detailed Description of the Invention